

House Resolution No. 939

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize individuals and organizations that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens; and

Whereas, the members now pause to recognize Gaylon Watson, of Piedmont, Missouri, who will be honored as the Piedmont Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year on March 11 during the Chamber's Annual Officer Installation Banquet to be held at Skip's Place in Piedmont; and

Whereas, born June 15, 1934, the treasured son of Almus and Alma Watson, Gaylon Watson has called Piedmont home for more than forty years, and during that time, he has been an educator, a politician, and a businessman; and

Whereas, Gaylon Watson, who owns and operates Watson Real Estate, a company he founded in 1977, holds a bachelor of science in education from Arkansas State University and a master's degree in broadcast journalism from the University of Missouri, and he began his career in Piedmont in 1966 when he founded KPWB; and

Whereas, Gaylon Watson served as Piedmont's mayor for a total of sixteen years, and during his tenure Piedmont saw the purchase of a new city hall, construction of a walkway bridge near the high school, construction of second entrance at the high school, purchase and development of the Highway 49 Industrial Complex, construction of sidewalks in the northern and southern sections of town, the McKenzie Creek Flood Buyout Program, development of Handy and Rotary Parks, Meadowbrook Subdivision and the Meadowbrook Apartments, and construction of new equipment storage sheds; and

Whereas, also while serving as mayor, Gaylon Watson saw additions made to the firehouse, the library, and the Wayne County Community Building; and

Whereas, Gaylon Watson is a member of the Piedmont Rotary Club, the Piedmont Chamber of Commerce, and Trinity United Methodist Church, and he was honored by the Missouri Department of Conservation in 2001 as Missouri State Conservationist of the Year; and

Whereas, Gaylon Watson is the beloved husband of Carolyn Watson, they are the proud parents of three grown children, Rick, Tim, and Angie:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our most sincere congratulations to Gaylon Watson on the illustrious occasion of his being named Citizen of the Year by the Piedmont Chamber of Commerce, with our best wishes for every success and happiness in the future; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Gaylon Watson, as a measure of our esteem.

Offered by Speaker Rod Jetton

District No. 156

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 939, adopted March 5, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker